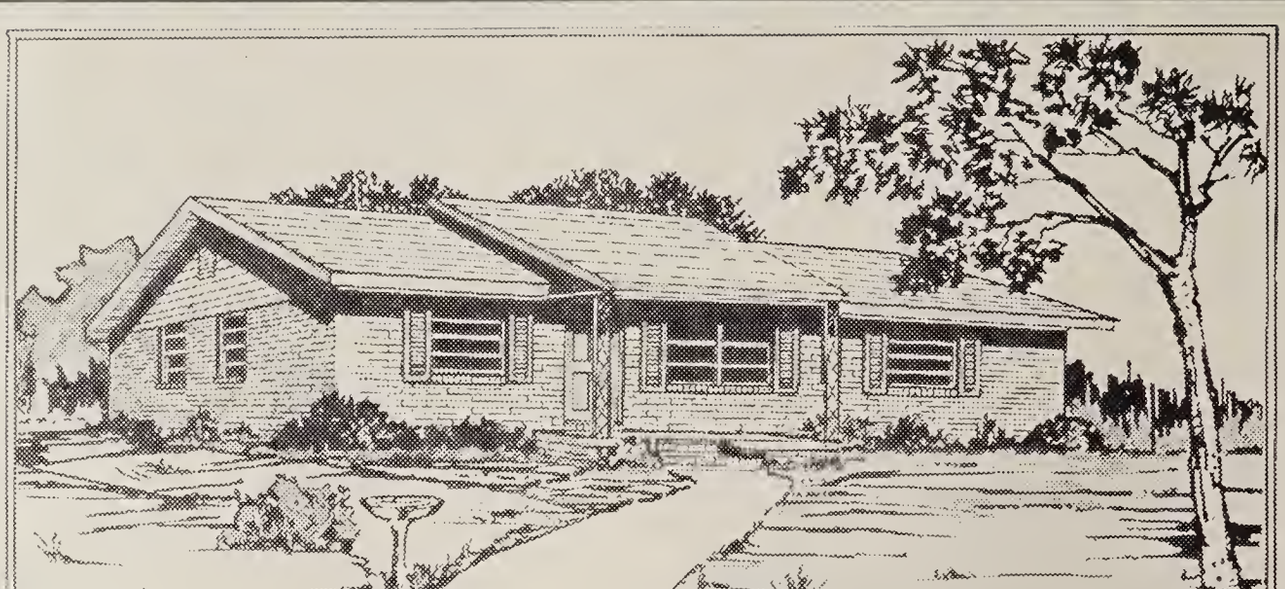
Carolina Country®

April 1979

Spotlighting Women EMC Directors
See Story, Pages 11-14



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NC-4 Age ____ Age ____ Ages ____

With Public Financing Of Elections

Let's Curb "Fat Cat" Power

This editorial by Bob Nelson, director of public relations for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, is reprinted from NRECA's Rural Electric Newsletter.

The House Administration Committee began hearings in March on H.R.1, a bill to provide partial public funding of general election campaigns for the U.S. House of Representatives.

With the strong support of Speaker O'Neill and 150 sponsors from both sides of the aisle its chances of passage this session would seem relatively good.

But like all legislation, this bill has its opponents as well as its supporters. Leading the opposition are the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Right to Work Committee. Included in the "pro" H.R.1 group are the American Bar Association, a number of labor unions, the League of Women Voters, the NFU, NFO and NRECA.

Delegates at NRECA's recent annual meeting adopted a supporting resolution that pointed to the mushrooming costs of political campaigns and said:

"We feel that this bill will have the positive effect of controlling the costs of financing election campaigns, and decreasing a candidate's reliance on big money interests to support a campaign. We urge the Congress to pass this bill."

Public financing of political campaigns may sound like a new idea, but it isn't. It was proposed as a political reform in 1907 by President Teddy Roosevelt.

That it took Congress nearly 70 years to act and put it into effect in 1976 for presidential elections is really not a mark against the concept as the "anti" forces would have us think.

What it demonstrates is the cautiousness of the Congress when it comes to acting on any measure that could be misinterpreted as something from which they might benefit. And of course that's the very reason why the opponents have dubbed it the "incumbent's protection act." They want people to think that House members are only interested in coming up with a gimmick to finance their elections.

Editorial

And that's too bad. In actuality, H.R.1, by providing equal financing opportunities for major party candidates in the general election, plus the same ceiling on spending, would open the elective process for House seats like it has never been opened before.

In summary, the bill would put a ceiling of $150,000 on the amount a candidate could spend in the election and still receive public help. If a candidate agreed to that limitation, he would be eligible to receive up to 4 of the limitation figure, or $60,000. get this amount, he would have to ra $30,000 from private sources in sn amounts. Every $100 raised would matched by a like amount of pul money, which would come from fund accumulated via the $1 check on citizen's tax returns.

The decision to accept or not accept public financing would voluntary. Candidates who opted to would, of course, be free of spending limitations. But th opponents could disregard the ceil as well — and still receive pul financing.

In 1976 the average House campa cost $71,000. In 1978 that figure v $108,000. And it's going higher which, by the way, adds to importance of citizen-based politi action committees, such as the Act Committee for Rural Electrificat (ACRE).

But we need to ask ourselves if it healthy system that threatens to ma the arena of elective politics playground of the rich, or for candidates to seek out the fat cats, in hand, and ask for contributions.

The Passing Scene

Have you met the Tate family? We had met several members of t clan, but we didn't know it until we ran across this analysis of th traits: *Most every organization has members of the Tate fam There's old man Dic Tate, who wants to run everything. Uncle Ro T tries to change everything. Sister Agi Tate stirs up plenty of troul with the help of husband, Irri Tate. Hesi Tate and Vege Tate wan wait until next year. Aunt Imi Tate wants the organization to be like others. De Tate provides the voice of doom, while Poten Tate wants to be a big shot. Howe Facili Tate is helpful in organizational matters, Miss Felici Tate helps out, wh Cousins Cogi Tate and Medi Tate always think things over before lending a help steadying hand. The black sheep of the family is Ampu Tate, who has complet cut himself off from the organization.*

Carolina Country®

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Read Monthly in More Than 275,000 Homes
Vol. 11 No. 4 April 1979

Official Publication
North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, Inc.
James M. Hubbard — Executive Vice President
Owen Bishop — Editor
Kemp Ward — Associate Editor
June M. Brotherton — Staff Writer
Milly Alford — Editorial Assistant

Carolina Country (formerly *The Carolina Farmer*) is published monthly by North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, Inc. Second class postage paid at Richmond, Va. 23219. Editorial Offices, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. *Carolina Country* is a registered trademark of North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation. Postmaster send form 3579 to P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. EMC group subscriptions, $1.10 a year, individual $1.50. Address all mail to *Carolina Country*, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611.

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COVER—This scene at Calabash was photographed by Jim Doane of Aerial Photo Services in Charlotte. It was featured on the cover of *The State* magazine last September. Our thanks to W. B. Wright, editor and publisher of that publication, for the loan of color negatives for use on our cover.

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Device Being Eyed

The utilities division of the State Attorney General's office is investigating a device which may be being sold under false pretenses as an instrument to reduce home electricity consumption.

The device, a box known as a transient surge suppressor, blocks sudden and temporary voltage surges that may occur when lights or capacitors are turned off and on. Independent laboratory tests at the University of Florida have shown that the device saves no energy.

Confusion Arises Over "Lifeline" Rate Notices

Widespread confusion apparently has arisen over the distribution of special notices to Social Security recipients about a "lifeline" electric rate being charged by Duke Power Company.

The notices are application forms which Duke's residential customers can use to qualify for the new rate. The State Utilities Commission ordered Duke to adopt the rate last fall.

The confusion has stemmed from the fact that the gold-colored forms were distributed to all Social Security recipients in all counties where Duke offers service. Thus, many individuals who are served by other investor-owned utilities, municipal systems and Electric Membership Corporations have received them — and, as a result, expect the same discount from their power supplies.

Duke is the only supplier now offering such a "lifelife" rate. It excepts certain residential customers from an August rate hike on the first 350 kilowatt hours of electric usage each month. For 350 Kwh or more, the discount would amount to a maximum of 53 cents for one category of user, 63 cents for a second category and 91 cents for a third.

The rate applies to Social Security recipients, the blind and disabled as well as those 65 years or older who aren't on the Social Security rolls — if they are the head of a household and/or the principal wage earner.

The application forms were distributed by the Social Security Administration, with Duke covering all costs involved. Duke officials said the distribution was handled by the government agency to assure confidentiality of the Social Security recipients.

Dew In New Post With Extension

Dr. Paul E. Dew has been promoted from district chairman to assistant director in charge of county operations for the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service. He succeeds Dr. Chester Black, who was promoted last November from assistant to associate extension director.

Dew, a Bailey native with three degrees from N.C. State University, has served as an extension agent in Wake County, as a county extension chairman in Cumberland, and as a district chairman in three of extension's seven districts. Most recently, he was chairman of the 16-county North Central District.

REA Loans Approved

Two North Carolina Electric Membership Corporations have been awarded loans through the Rural Electrification Administration for expansion of their systems.

Halifax EMC, Enfield, received a $1,001,000 loan to finance 70 percent of a project which includes service for 655 additional consumers, 42 miles of distribution line, five miles of transmission line and various system improvements. At the completion of the project, the co-op will be serving 8,913 consumers over 1,332 miles of line in portions of Warren, Halifax, Martin and Nash counties.

Harkers Island EMC, Harkers Island, received a $108,000 loan to finance 70 percent of a project tha will extend service to 100 additiona consumers, add two miles of distribution line and make other improvements. At the completion the project, the EMC will be servin 1,078 consumers over 36 miles of li in portions of Carteret County.

In both cases, the co-ops will obtain the remaining 30 percent of the required financing from the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation, a lending institution formed by the nation's cooperatives.

State May Enter VEPCO Rate Case

State Attorney General Rufus Edmisten has asked the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for permission to intervene on behalf the state to oppose a wholesale rat increase sought by Virginia Electric and Power Company. The firm is seeking a $28.78 million rate hike.

VEPCO sells electricity at bulk rates to 16 cities and six Electric Membership Corporations in Northeastern North Carolina.

The co-ops have already reached tentative agreement with VEPCO o the amount of the increase affectin them, but the cities are continuing to oppose the hike before the FER

The federal agency has tentativel scheduled hearings on the rate increase request for June 4.

EMC Annual Meetings S

Four Electric Membership Corporations around the state will hold annual membership meetings during April and May to elect new directors for the coming year.

- French Broad EMC, Marshall, will meet April 21 at the Madison High School gymnasium, with registration beginning at 10 a.m. a the business session at 1 p.m. An a and crafts show and sale will be featured in the school cafeteria. Elections will fill three directors' posts. Directors whose terms are expiring are Novile C. Hawkins of

1, Mars Hill; Elmer Buchanan of Bakersville and Carol O. Ramsey of Rt. 1, Flag Pond.

• Halifax EMC, Enfield, will meet May 5 at the Enfield High School auditorium. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m., the entertainment at 1 p.m. and the business session at 2 p.m. Elections will fill three directors' posts. Directors whose terms are expiring are Mrs. Helen Fleming of Rt. 2, Scotland Neck; R. J. Simmons of Rt. 1, Enfield; G. W. King of Rt. 1, Warrenton; and Plummer Hardy Jr. of Rt. 3, Enfield.

• Crescent EMC, Statesville, will meet May 19 at the Statesville Senior High School auditorium, featuring entertainment by a gospel group and an address by James M. Hubbard, executive vice president of the statewide EMC organization. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. and the meeting at 2 p.m. Elections will fill seven directors' posts. Directors whose terms are expiring are Jimmy L. Horton and Russell A. Cowan, both of Rt. 2, Cleveland; E. R. Crater of Yadkinville, T. L. Brotherton of Cornelius; J. Adrian Dobson of Rt. 2, Statesville; Mrs. Opal Eller of Rt. 2, Moravian Falls and Tom Bailey Woodruff of Rt. 5, Mocksville.

• Harkers Island EMC will meet May 19 at 7 p.m. at the Harkers Island High School gymnasium. Three directors' posts will be filled during the elections. Directors whose terms are expiring are George L. Best Jr., Williford A. Dixon and Leland W. Yeomans, all of Harkers Island.

4-H Programs Cited

Three North Carolina counties are among 45 counties across the country named to receive state honors for outstanding 4-H programs. Forsyth County was cited for its 4-H automotive program, Sampson County for its 4-H conservation program and Warren County for its 4-H safety program.

The selections were announced by the National 4-H Council in Chicago.

EMC Elects Woman, Director Emeritus

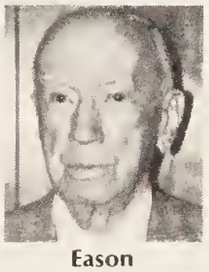
The members of Edgecombe-Martin County Electric Membership Corporation, Tarboro, have elected a 39-year veteran director to the newly created post of director emeritus and named their first woman director to fill the resulting vacancy on the EMC's nine-member board of directors.

W. J. Eason of Rt. 3, Tarboro, was elected to the new position after having served on the co-op's board since 1940.

Alice Edmonson Wilson of Tarboro, who has been active in the co-op's Women's Committee and in state and national rural electric women's programs for several years, was elected to succeed Eason.

Active in many civic and political programs in Edgecombe County, she served as chairman of the state's rural electric women's program from 1973 to 1976. Since the fall of 1976, she has been a member of the Women's Action Standing Committee of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, a 10-member group which serves as a liaison between the national association and EMC consumer-members. It helps formulate national plans and policies for women's programs and consumer projects within the rural electric program.

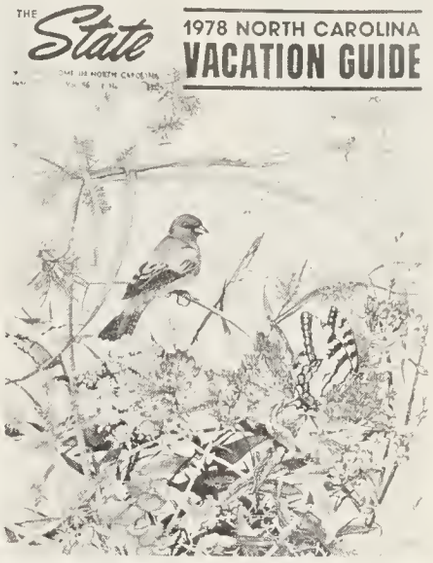
Mrs. Wilson becomes the eighth woman currently serving as a director of local EMC in North Carolina. (See story, Pages 11-14).



Eason

Wilson

In other action at the Edgecombe-Martin County EMC annual meeting March 17, two incumbent directors were re-elected. They are W. Kitchin Benson of Battleboro, president; and R. L. Eason of Rt. 3, Tarboro. □



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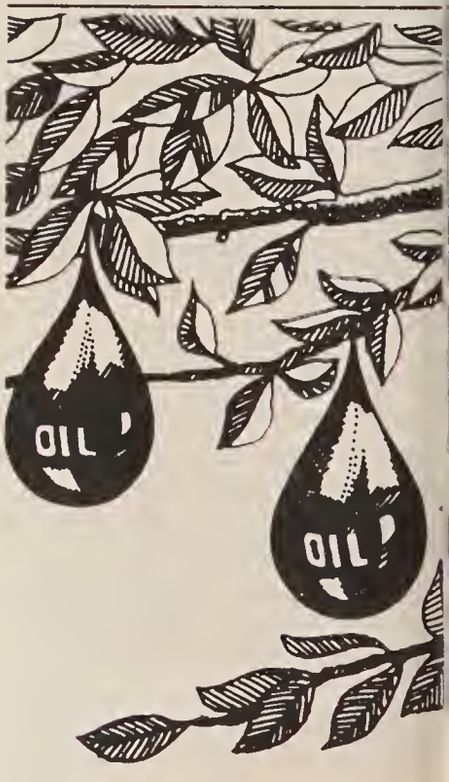
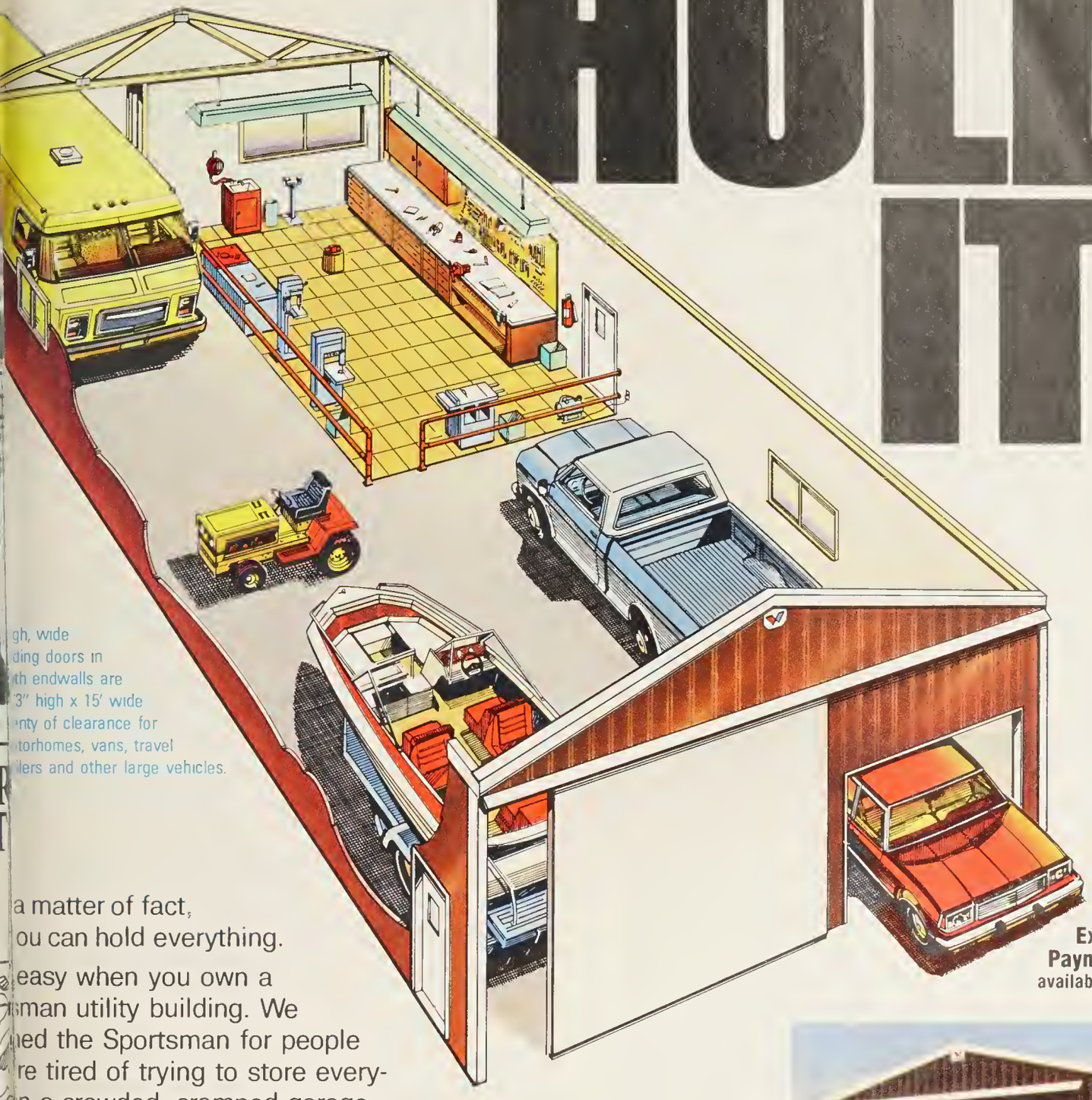


'HOLD IT'



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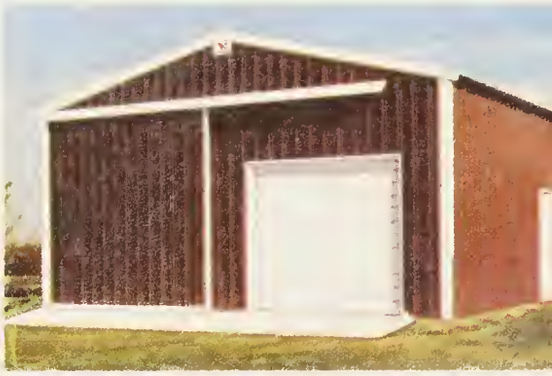

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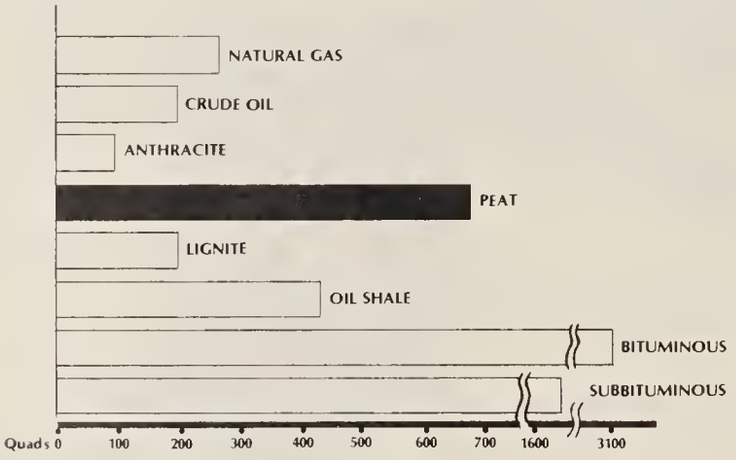
Funds Sought For Peat-Fired Generato

North Carolina's Electric Membership Corporations are moving in two directions to get plans underway for construction of a $134 million peat-fired generating plant in the Northeastern section of the state.

They're seeking a commitment from the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), a national research center serving the nation's electric utility industry, to support and conduct a preliminary feasibility study of the proposed 150 megawatt plant, which would be the first of its kind in the country.

And, they're asking Congress to authorize appropriations totaling $67 million to finance half the cost of constructing such a plant, making it a demonstration project to test an alternate fuel which could have long-range impact on the nation's electric energy supply.



RECOVERABLE FOSSIL FUEL RESERVES
IN THE CONTIGUOUS 48 STATES

The feasibility study would examine national peat resources, the feasibility of recovering the materials, test the processes under consideration for converting peat into energy — including their potential environmental impact — and outline the preliminary costs for a peat-fueled plant as well as a detailed program for the development of the demonstration plant.

The study would cost an estimated $80,000, with funding from North Carolina EMC, the power supply arm of the statewide EMC organization; the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) and EPRI. N.C. EMC would contribute $10,000 and NRECA, $30,000. EPRI would cover the remainder.

It would build on initial studies by two engineering firms which have indicated that a peat-fired plant could be economically feasible if efficient methods of harvesting the material can be developed.

Peat, which is found in all 50 states, is formed through decomposition of plant matter in wate saturated areas. It is an early stage of coal.

Experiments in harvesting peat have bee underway for nearly two years at the giant Fir Colony Farms in Washington, Dare, Tyrrell and Hy counties, using Russian and Finnish equipmer Russia, Finland and Ireland have used peat as fuel f many years.

The pilot generator, which would be built ne Creswell in Washington County, would be the fir unit of a four-unit 600 megawatt facility that could ta North Carolina's extensive peat reserves. Tho reserves are the energy equivalent of five billic barrels of oil and could supply all of the state's ener needs for at least 23 years (at 1976 consumptic levels).

In introducing the bill for the Congression appropriations for the demonstration plant, Fif District Rep. Stephen Neal said, "Aside from co peat is the most abundant fossil fuel found in th country. It is cleaner to burn than coal and easier mine, or in this case harvest, and it appears to be co competitive with both coal and nuclear power.

"In addition, it has been demonstrated that aft the peat has been harvested, the land can b reclaimed as productive farmland."

He added: "This country has a vast untappe reserve of peat that we can no longer afford to ignor We need this kind of demonstration plant to see wh peat can do for us as an alternative source of energ We cannot leave that kind of asset untouched."

He said the funds being sought would be a "sma investment in a resource that promises t demonstrate the viability of a major source of ener for the near future."

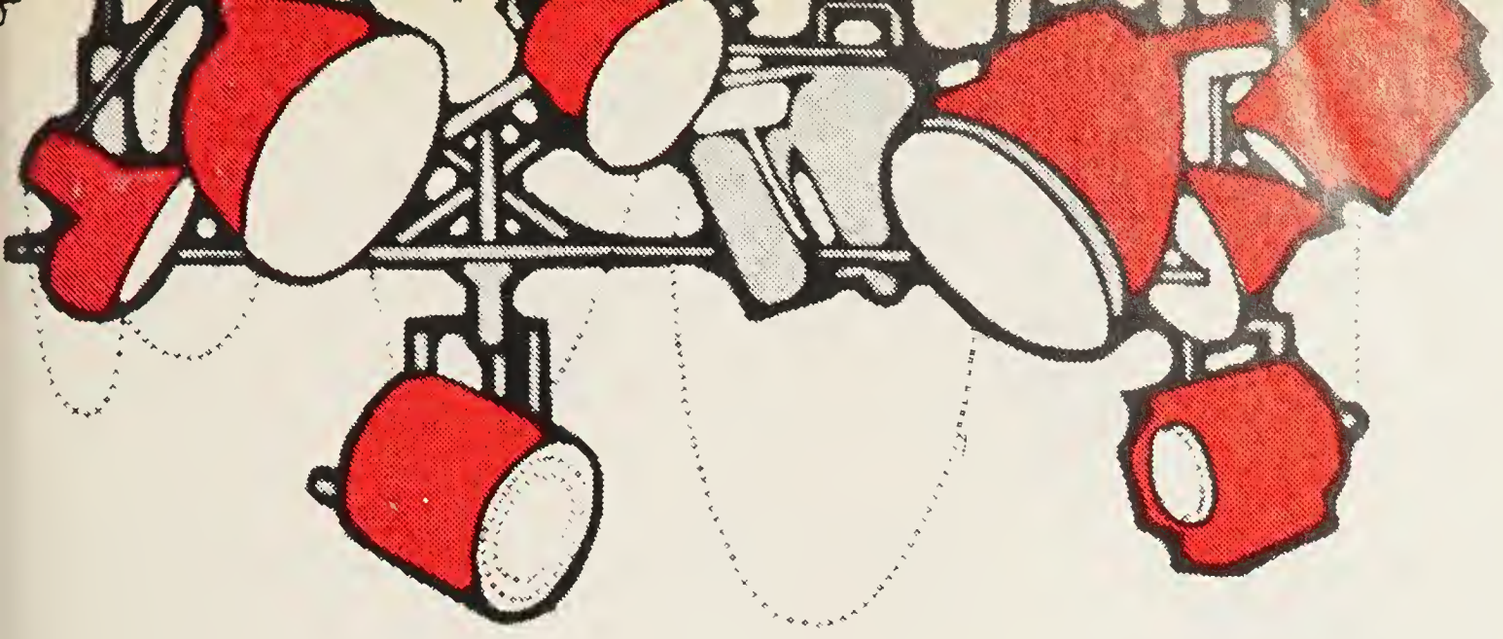
Rep. Neal's bill calls for Congress to authoriz federal spending for the project beginning with a $ million commitment in 1980, followed by another $ million in 1981. The financing required in the ensuir years would be: 1982 — $10 million; 1983 — $4 million; 1984 — $10 million; 1985 — $4 million.

N.C. EMC's contributions would come in in-kin services during the first two years, with cas commitments of $1 million in 1982, $10 million in 198 $40 million in 1984 and $16.5 million in 1985.

"We're very excited about this project," said Jame Lee Burney, director of environmental and publ affairs for N.C. EMC. "Our commitment is to chea power for the co-ops we work for and ear indications are this will be a lot cheaper than som energy sources."

He said federal funding is being sought becaus "the consumers cannot be expected to underwrit the cost of an experiment of this kind, even though looks like a pretty sure thing."

—*Owen Bisho*



What's A Woman Doing On The Board Of Directors?

A woman's place is in the House — *and the Senate*. That's one of today's popular sayings. A sharp eye can spot it on T-shirts, bumper stickers, stationery and lots of other places.

It can also be seen in the way women today are acting. Even women who say they aren't into "that woman's lib stuff." They sur do think differently than their mothers or grandmothers when it comes to what women can do, what is or isn't ladylike or which jobs are women's and which are men's.

It's for sure that a woman's place is not just in the home anymore.

Down through the years it has been rare for a woman to become involved with electric membership corporations in any position of responsibility. It still is, but a few cooperatives in North Carolina are now giving women a chance.

Of the nearly 300 local directors that guide the 28 separate cooperatives in the state, only eight are women — not exactly a good percentage — but several are trailblazing, the first female to sit at the board table of their cooperative.

Seven have been on their board long enough to have contributed in decision-making sessions and have an idea of what it's really like to help lead a cooperative. Over the next three pages is a look at them and what they have to say. The eighth, Alice Edmondson Wilson, was elected to the board of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC just a few days ago. Read about that on page 7.

None of the cooperatives has a female manager.

Next month in the final installment of the three-part series on women in action, there will be a close look at what women's emergence is doing to both men and women psychologically. There's no doubt that it has cause many new pressures that have in turn caused new psychological mischief.

In addition, Pat Williams, project engineer with the North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation, the power supply arm of the EMC statewide organization will allow us to take a look at what it's been like for a woman to make a lifetime career in a male dominated profession.

They're Working In The Spotlight . . .

"None of us on the Women's Committee ever thought we would make it to the board."

Helen Fleming, a director of Halifax EMC, Enfield, said she was shocked when the board of directors picked a woman last year to fill a vacated slot — and she almost couldn't believe that they picked her.

She said that before she was chosen, she had never even thought of sitting on the cooperative board. It never entered her mind even though she had been on the Women's Committee for 14 years, serving continuously as its chairman.

"None of us on the Women's Committee ever thought we would make it to the board," she said. "I was really shocked when they called and told me. I just could not believe it."

She said the men in the cooperative had controlled things for so long that no women even wanted to try for a board seat. It was considered out of reach for a woman. She said she's pleased now to find out that it isn't.

"I guess they thought it was time to put a woman on," she theorized. "I think they think it's a hurdle they jumped over."

She feels a woman is an asset to the board, but she isn't expecting any more women directors for awhile yet.

"You're dealing with thousands of people and millions of dollars."

Marciea Revels Lowery, a director of Lumbee River EMC, Red Springs, is a woman who decided she wanted to be a director of her EMC and went right out and did it.

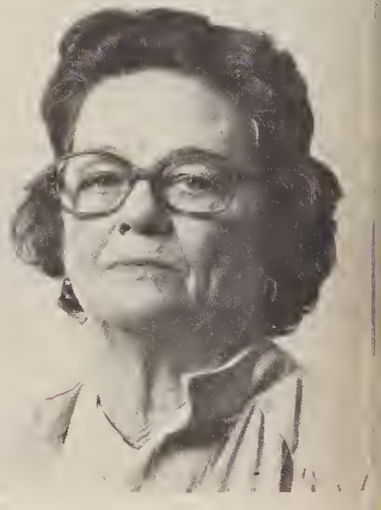
It wasn't easy since she had to unseat an incumbent director, but she did it last October.

"I believe that any woman who feels qualified to serve on any board, any committee or any organization should step forward," she says.

After 15 years of being member, she realized one day ho little she knew about th cooperative and how it operate She decided right then to something to remedy th situation.

"You're dealing with thousar of people and millions of dolla By getting involved, I can lea more about the cooperative, an can let my ideas be known, an can help members be bet informed about their coope tive."

She said she encourages mo members — both men and wom — to take the time to get involv with the cooperative in leadersh positions.



"It wasn't really that much of adjustment for me."

Mrs. Opal Eller, a director Crescent EMC, Statesville, h been involved with th cooperative since the day it w organized, but she never took

formal leadership role until the death of her husband, a director for 17 years.

"It's made me appreciate it more," she said. "I realize all the work that goes into it. The time you have to spend with it. I thoroughly enjoy the board. That's about all I do for recreation."

She was appointed to fill out his unexpired term after residents of the area circulated and presented petitions recommending her for the job. She had practically taken over her husband's position three years earlier when he suffered a crippling stroke and most of his work with the cooperative was left to her.

"I did a lot of the things while he was alive that a member of the board of directors would do," she said. "It wasn't really that much of an adjustment for me."

Donald Rice, manager of the EMC, says she has blended in very well and contributes. "She says, 'Just treat me like one of the boys,' and we do," he said.

"They have treated me as a board member — not as a woman — that's what I want."

Lucill Eakins, a director of Four County EMC, Burgaw, was already a familiar face when she was appointed four years ago to fill out the unexpired term of a director who died. She had been a leading member of the EMC's Women's Committee a few years earlier.

She said her relationship with her fellow board members has been "just beautiful."

"They have treated me as a board member — not as a woman — that's what I want. People accept me well. They do not feel a man could do any better."

She said she feels a responsibility to the members to do a good job, and she feels that as a woman she can give some insight that might otherwise be missed.

She said she had not sought a place on the board, but when she was asked to serve, she decided she wanted it.

"She's very, very involved. She's a worker. I wish we had two more just like her."—Cecil Viverette, manager of Blue Ridge EMC.

Charity Gambill, director-at-large of Blue Ridge EMC, Lenoir, really beats the odds. She's the only black woman ever to sit on an EMC board of directors in this state, and she says there are no others in the nation.

Two things got her on the board — her record of community involvement and her race. The EMC created the position of director-at-large to make a permanent space for a minority group representative. Only a member of a minority can hold the post. She was singled out to be the first to serve in the new position because of her reputation as a mover.

"She's very, very involved," said EMC Manager Cecil Viverette. "She's a worker. I wish we had two more like her."

Viverette said she blended in well with the other directors from the start and hasn't been afraid to speak up. "I don't see how it can be nicer," he said.

She's not the only woman to be a director at Blue Ridge, he said, but she's the first in a long time.

Even though Ms. Gambill is expected to speak for both blacks and women, she says her top concern has been representing the general membership. The other has been secondary. She said she takes her job seriously.

And as to the scarity of women directors across the state, she says both sexes are to blame. Women haven't wanted to lead, and a lot of men have been happy with that, she said.

"I feel women still don't want a leadership role," she confided. "And I don't want to throw stones, but some of our men across the state don't want women on the board of directors."

She hopes attitudes will change and women will begin to take more responsibility, because, she says, women have a lot of help they can give.

"Women are going to have to take that step," she said. "We can make our contribution. We are — I feel — a great asset. We should start acting like it."

She wants some female companionship on the Blue Ridge board and other EMC boards and hopes the example she and the other women directors set will help speed it along.

(Continued on Page 14)

The Best Man For The Job Might Be A Woman
PART II

"I was in it from the beginning. I was the one that got the thing going you might say."

There's a good reason why **Mrs. Van Smith** is a director of Tri-County EMC, Goldsboro. She was one of the cooperative's principal organizers. And for the last 40 years she's helped guide its affairs.

"I was in it from the beginning," she said, recalling the days when electricity was unavailable in her area. "I was the one that got the thing going, you might say. Of course, I had a lot of help."

She hadn't intended to take a leadership role once the organization was formed, though. Instead, she planned to drop out and leave the running of the newly formed cooperative to the men. But they wouldn't let her. She at first refused to take a seat on the board, and it was given to a man. But just a year later, the seat was open again. And again she was pressured to take it. This time she relented. "I've been on ever since," she said.

She said women have a lot to offer in the way of leadership, but in all her decades, not another woman has joined her as a director.

"The women just weren't interested in being on the board, and the men weren't too much interested in getting them on," she said.

She advises women who are interested in leadership posts to let their cooperative's nominating committee know. Ask for the job, she says.

Her 4 decades on the board give her a good working knowledge of how a cooperative should work, and, as a result, fellow board members listen to her and give weight to her ideas and suggestions. She said the same would be true for other women if they make the effort to be heard.

"You can do your own thing, but first you've got to show your capabilities."

Louise Corbett, a director of Brunswick EMC, Shallotte, is a woman who feels comfortable with trailblazing. She's the EMC's first woman director and the first woman mayor of Yaupon Beach. And she's long had a reputation in her area as a mover, "simply because I'm interested in community affairs."

She said she feels men have tried in the past to keep women out of decision-making positions, and its the responsibility of women to try hard to fight it. But, she says, women must be certain they can handle a job before they try to get it.

"You can do your own thing, but first you've got to show your capabilities," she said.

Her advice to women wantir leadership posts is to becon active on the community level fir She said that once a woman sho her value as a leader, it will be ve hard to keep her out of leadersh positions in the cooperative ar other organizations.

She said her relationship wi fellow board members has bee very good, mostly because th can work effectively together.

"I feel like one of 'em," she sai "They look on me as a membe and this is what is necessary. If yo stand out, you're not going to b effective." □

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Country Kitchen

STOVETOP STUFFING LOAF

This month's recipe is from Mrs. Maggie Warden of Glade Valley in Alleghany County. She says she has been "collecting recipes since 1950. Sometimes I add to them and sometimes I take things out. I am 77 years old and still like to cook and share my recipes and baked goods with others."

If you would like to share a recipe with this column, send it to: COUNTRY KITCHEN, P.O. Box 2246, Raleigh, NC 27611. We pay $5 for published recipes.

COUNTRY KITCHEN RECIPE

Submitted by Mrs. Maggie Warden of Glade Valley

STOVETOP STUFFING LOAF

1½ lb. ground beef
1 egg
1 can chicken broth
1 box stovetop stuffing
2 tablespoons onion soup mix

Beat eggs, add chicken broth and onion soup mix. Add stuffing and ground beef. Mix well. Makes two loaves. Top each loaf with a bacon slice and bake in pan lined with aluminum foil at 350° for 1 hour and 25 minutes.

Commentary

On HEW's Accountability

It's not news to report that the Federal Government, through its Department of Health, Education and Welfare, is continuing its noble efforts to provide equal educational opportunities for all of this country's citizens.

The University of North Carolina (that is, the state's system of 16 institutions) has been engaged for some time now in a running controversy with HEW over just what the law requires in this matter.

Despite the substantial progress which has been made and the steps which have been taken to meet HEW-established guidelines, the approved plans of today inevitably are labeled the shortcomings of tomorrow, so the process goes on continually.

How President Friday and his staff can manage to perform at such a high level of competence those educational duties and responsibilities which are their primary mission, while having to devote such an inordinate amount of their time and energies to the revision of previously submitted and approved plans to HEW, is something just short of a miracle. This would be true based simply on the amount of time required, not to mention the frustration involved or the strain to conduct educational business in such an atmosphere.

It has been obvious to me for some time that The University of North Carolina has been called upon to carry an unequal share of the burden of this issue for public higher education in the nation. But merely to complain is not constructive, so let's take a positive approach and see what might be done.

Several things occur to me which I feel are worthy of consideration by those individuals at the federal level who have the responsibility to seek an equitable solution to this problem.

First of all, I believe *the public deserves a well publicized, state-by-state annual status report from HEW.* Such a report would, I am convinced, be revealing as to the progress which North Carolina has made and also would show just how little has been done and just how little is being demanded of some other states.

Next, I suggest that the responsibility should not rest solely, or even primarily, upon the nation's state-supported colleges and universities, but should be shared equally by the private institutions of higher education.

If there is any validity to the HEW premise that failure to comply with these regulations should result in the cutting off of huge sums of federal money channeled to these institutions, then this threat should apply equally to the private universities who also receive large sums of federal money.

Perhaps also worth some consideration is this: If the Federal Government's approach to secondary school integration is to be applied to higher education (as is becoming increasingly obvious with each new HEW stand), then why not carry this to its logical conclusion?

What I'm saying is that HEW, with the backing on the courts, has said that neighborhood schools can no longer be maintained in some areas because they perpetuate *de facto* segregation. In other words, we can't get rid of the segregated schools if we continue to send children only to their neighborhood school, simply because certain neighborhoods are made up predominantly of one race. Hence, the courts have ruled that it is permissible to combine all of the public schools in a city or county and to reassign the pupils so as to provide a racial balance more nearly equal to that of the community as a whole.

While neither the courts nor HEW has yet advocated that simplistic approach for higher education (and pupil assignment at the college level is impractical), still HEW is getti dangerously close to it when suggests that certain courses neighboring branches of a univers system should be combined.

My point, then, is this: If t approach has merit, why not extend even further? Inasmuch as the Sou has a heavier concentration of bla residents than other sections of t country, it is impossible to *complete* solve the problem simply reassigning students within th geographic area.

"It appears to many of us here in North Carolina that th state and this University system have done more to meet th requirements of federal law and HEW guidelines than mo other states — certainly those in the South — yet Nor Carolina is frequently pictured to the nation by HE representatives and others as a state unwilling to meet moral and legal obligations in this area."

Utilizing the same logic previous applied to the public schools, *why n require each state to bring t percentage of its black college stude enrollment up to the percentage the nation's black population? Th same, of course, would apply to th hiring of minority faculty members.*

If these two things were done: (1) private universities were required adhere to the same admissio standards as publicly supporte institutions in order to contin receiving federal funds; and (2) if states were required to share in th education of racial minorities to th extent of the other states, then ti burden would be shared equally.

Were this to happen, the state North Carolina and The University North Carolina would, by compariso become a shining example of th progress which can — and has — bee made.

Not to do this, it seems to me, is continue to require that the publicl supported institutions of high learning shoulder a disproportiona share of this responsibility. At the sam time, it permits those states who

(Continued on Page 17)

minority populations are small to sit back and smugly criticize others for not doing what is perceived to be just in the eyes of the law.

It appears to many of us here in North Carolina that this state and this University system have done more to meet the requirements of federal law and HEW guidelines than most other states — certainly those in the South — yet North Carolina is frequently pictured to the nation by HEW representatives and others as a state unwilling to meet its moral and legal obligations in this area.

Before leaving this subject, there is one other aspect worthy of consideration, and it won't go away simply by ignoring it. This is the role of our traditionally black colleges and universities. They don't want to be swallowed up by a white majority, and both the courts and HEW have asserted that the integrity of these institutions must be maintained while changing enrollment patterns take place.

While it is difficult to argue against the desirability of maintaining the racial identity and heritage of these colleges and universities, it is even more difficult to defend the stand in the face of what is being required of the predominantly white institutions. To follow this advocacy is simply to endorse a dual standard, which is exactly what the changes in the law are designed to eliminate.

Those individuals, including the officials of The University of North Carolina, who have been required to work on solutions to this problem on a daily basis for years, deserve the thanks of everyone interested in the future of higher education in this state and nation.

They also deserve to have the burden shared by a larger segment of higher education, including both the private and publicly-supported universities in each of the states. And, the citizens of the United States deserve at least an annual report on the status of this matter within each of the 50 states.

Clarence E. Whitfield
UNC-CH Director of Alumni Affairs
University Report, February, 1979

Being a parent is one of the toughest jobs in the world.

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Addresses National Meeting

Sen. Morgan Calls For "Partnership"

North Carolina's Sen. Robert Morgan, speaking at the 37th annual meeting of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) in Houston, Feb. 19-22, urged the nation's rural electric co-ops to spearhead a partnership with "soft path" energy advocates to bring about a vital balance between the development of renewable and non-renewable resources.

Sen. Morgan criticized single-purpose lobbies which would rely exclusively on solar, windpower, low-head hydro and other "soft path" technologies as the solution to the nation's energy problems. He was also critical of traditionalists who reject the contribution that renewable resources can make.

Conflict Brings Delay

He said the heated conflict between advocates of central station electricity — which he personally believes in — and the on-site energy enthusiasts "threatens to needlessly complicate and delay the development of renewable energy sources."

Morgan said that he believed a combination of development of renewable resources and "balanced development of nuclear energy" will make up America's energy future.

Commenting both in his address and at a press conference on the growing cost to electric consumers of environmental and other regulations, Morgan said that Congress is handicapped in doing much about it because of effective, single-issues lobbies. He invited the co-ops to counter regulatory legislation and administration with a citizen's lobby of its own.

"The rural electric cooperatives have the finest communications network in the country," Morgan said, suggesting that it could be used for a worthwhile purpose in informing members of why their electric rates are escalating.

Cites Personal Experience

Citing a personal experience with single-issue lobbies, Morgan said he offered an amendment to the clean air legislation which would give regulators some discretion in forcing utilities to "use the best available technology" to maintain emissions at acceptable ambient air standards. The problem with the unamended language was that it required utilities who were complying with air quality standards to install unneeded equipment which the electric consumer ultimately paid for.

According to Morgan, he received an avalanche of abusive mail from Sierra Club members and members of similar groups and was attacked on television in his home state by a representative of an environmental group who characterized him as being against clean air. His subsequent inquiry revealed that his critic didn't know what was in his amendment.

"She simply responded to a call from her Washington lobby."

Morgan said Congress could not withstand that kind of pressure unless it can get help from such organizations as the rural electric cooperatives.

"It will be difficult for Congress to correct (the overregulation problem) if the people here don't get involved."

Also commenting on government regulations was Robert D. Patridge, executive vice president and general manager of NRECA, who said the regulators "are creating a jungle of nonsensical red tape which is counter productive and contrary to the public interest."

He said "regulation in reasonable measure is needed" and has always had the support of the co-ops.

He also expressed concern about the electric utility industry's ability to meet power supply requirements in the years ahead.

Efforts by the 95th Congress and the Carter Administration have added up to more hindrance than help due to the continuing flood of regulations.

As an example, Partridge said only two or three permits were required a few years ago to build a power plant. Now it takes more than 60.

Regulations like this will make it difficult for the industry to provide the additional 300,000 megawatts of generating capacity that'll be needed in this country over the next 10 years, he added.

Conservation Measures Needed

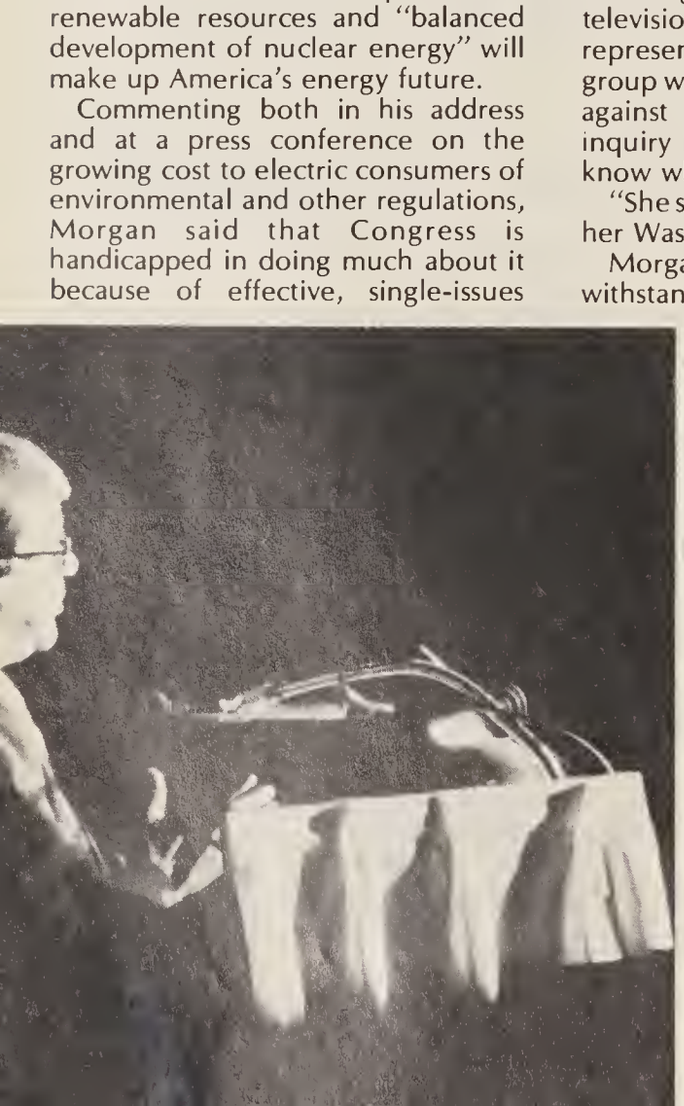
U.S. Rep. Don Fuqua (D-Fla.), chairman of the House Science and Technology Committee told a general session that effective energy conservation in the United States "requires more than turning down the thermostat and eliminating Sunday driving."

He said "conservation continues to be the cheapest way to increase the nation's energy supply," but warned that America's energy conservation program must expand beyond the traditional conception of "doing with less."

Rep. Guy Vander Jagt (R-Mich.) told rural electric leaders that if the U.S. is to successfully meet the "challenge of inflation" it must reduce the cost of overregulation which adds 30% to consumers' electric bills.

"Something is wrong when it takes ten years to build a power plant," Vander Jagt said.

Delegates to the annual meeting adopted 108 policy statements dealing with a wide range of rural concerns. □



Sen. Robert Morgan of North Carolina addresses the 10,000 rural electric leaders attending the 1979 annual meeting of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association in Houston.

Want To Write Your Your Congressman?

Here are the current addresses of all 13 members of North Carolina's Congressional delegation, reflecting some office changes which occurred in January:

SENATE

Jesse A. Helms
4213 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Robert Morgan
5313 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1st District
Walter B. Jones
241 Cannon House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

2nd District
L. H. Fountain
2188 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

3rd District
Charles Whitley
404 Cannon House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

4th District
Ike F. Andrews
2446 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

5th District
Stephen L. Neal
331 Cannon House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

6th District
L. Richardson Preyer
2344 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

7th District
Charles G. Rose, III
2435 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

8th District
William H. Hefner
328 Cannon House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

9th District
James G. Martin
341 Cannon House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

10th District
James T. Broyhill
2340 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

11th District
Lamar Gudger
428 Cannon House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

Court Strikes At Charges For "Phantom Taxes"

The U.S. Court of Appeals has decided that investor-owned electric utilities have no business charging rate-payers for federal income taxes they ultimately never pay.

In a Feb. 16 ruling, the court decided the issue in a 1976 case involving what the electric industry calls "income tax normalization," as it was applied by the Federal Power Commission (now the Federal Energy Regulation Commission).

Under the FPC rulemaking, the private utilities have been permitted to collect in their rates money to compensate them for the income taxes they must pay. In recent years, however, private utilities have received a number of tax benefits that have reduced their federal income tax payments to almost nothing.

Rates Cover Taxes

Nevertheless, the companies have continued to collect full income taxes in their rates as though they were actually paying them.

Opponents of the procedure, which included North Carolina's Electric Membership Corporations and other wholesale power purchasers, argued that the charges were "phantom income taxes." The case was argued in October, 1977.

The decision did not altogether prohibit the collection of such taxes in electric rates but said that such collection would have to be fully justified before FERC could approve it.

"This is a major victory for all wholesale electric customers," said Jim Stephenson, manager of North Carolina EMC, the power supply arm of the statewide EMC organization. "We cannot be sure at this point about the savings, but we'd expect them to be in the millions of dollars." □

Maceo McCormick, 78, a retired Scotland County farmer, recently had electricity linked to his home after doing without it for more than 50 years.

He's Learning To Live *WITH* Electricity

By Jim Reed

After half a century without the conveniences of electricity, Maceo McCormick of Rt. 1, Aberdeen, decided to have electrical service extended to his home.

McCormick, 78, became a new member-owner of Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation, Red Springs, recently, ending an era of depending on a trusty old kerosene latern for light.

He had lived a long, happy life without most of the conveniences that many of us take for granted. He cooked his meals on a wood-burning stove, and his warmth was provided by a fireplace.

Now, he has no immediate plans to add an electric stove or refrigeration in his five-room home, but he does have lights.

"I'm having a hard time getting use to having lights in the house," he said after about a week's use. "But it is more convenient," he continued.

He said he first thought about having electricity brought to his home about five years ago.

"A friend of mine helped me wire the house, but he didn't finish the job. I was in no hurry, and I was used to not having electricity, so I left it like it was."

McCormick said he finally decided to get power after urgings from relatives and friends, and he contacted the cooperative's member services department about it. John S. O'Briant, LREMC's director of member services, helped him get his home safely wired and arranged for the county electrical inspector's visit to the home.

When power was turned on in McCormick's home for the first time, he was sitting in his bedroom. It was cold, and he had a fire going in his fireplace. His latern was sitting on a table next to his bed. He was standing in front of his fireplace, and when the light came on, McCormick's expression showed that the change was going to take some getting used to.

He lives alone. His wife is deceased, and his children, a son and a daughter, left home in 1947.

Prior to building his home in 1924, he worked for railroad companies and in steel mills in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. He had been brought up in Robeson County, and he eventually decided to return home, buy a farm and work the farm for the rest of his life.

McCormick bought more than one hundred acres of Sandhills farmland and woods and had a sizable corn and cotton farming operation. He also had some tobacco acreage, and he raised some livestock. He retired from farming recently, and he now spends most of his time hunting and trapping on his land.

McCormick said he has seen a lot of changes over his 78 years, but he feels the decision to have lights and electricity in his home will make his life a little easier. □

Jim Reed is member-public information specialist at Lumbee River EMC, Red Springs

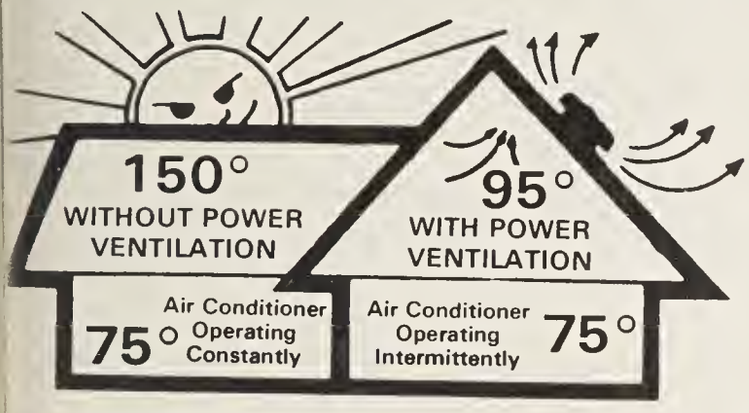
Rid Your Home Of "Collectables"

Heat, moisture and odors — these are the "collectables" that your home may be falling victim to.

In the summer your attic space can reach temperatures of up to 150 degrees, producing a blanket of heat that is not only uncomfortable but also can overwork your cooling system — and energy bill.

In the winter humidity both in the attic and inside the house can build to high levels. If not controlled, condensation of this moisture can ruin insulation — boosting your heating costs — and damage furniture, drapes and the house itself.

In a properly insulated, weatherstripped and caulked home, odors can be a problem the year around.



Experts say that 9 out of 10 homes are not properly ventilated, but that almost any home can be equipped with ventilation systems easily and economically. In most cases, installing power ventilators can be a simple weekend project that pays off.

A power ventilator in the attic can control heat in the summer by as much as 40 percent. Removing the heat blanket from over living spaces may mean that an air conditioner is not needed, or at least is not needed as much. In the winter the same ventilator — if it uses a humidistat as well as a thermostat — can remove excess moisture from the attic.

Exhaust fans in the basement, utility room and certainly in the bathroom and kitchen, help remove moisture, odors and grease that otherwise could make an energy-efficient home an uncomfortable and even unhealthy place to live.

While installing most power ventilators is neither difficult nor expensive, it is wise to get some expert advice before getting started. There are many factors which should be considered, ranging from type, features, size, noise level and efficiency of the vents to principles of good ventilation that pertain. And, of course, you want final results that are both properly installed and safe.

Consult the personnel at your Electric Membership Corporation. If they can't advise you on your project, chances are they can recommend someone who can.

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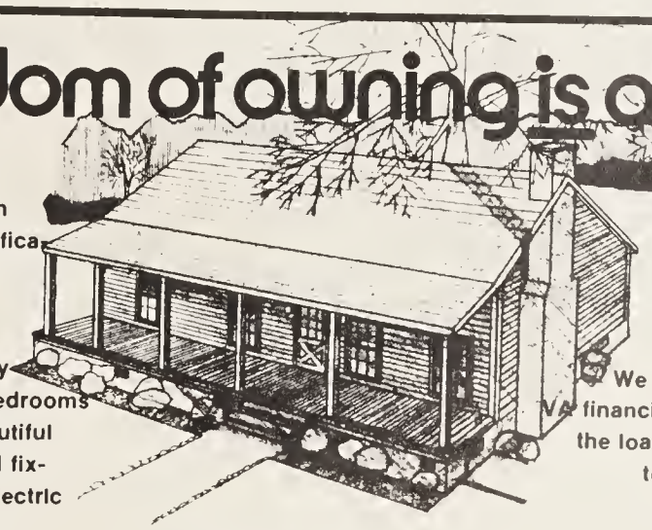

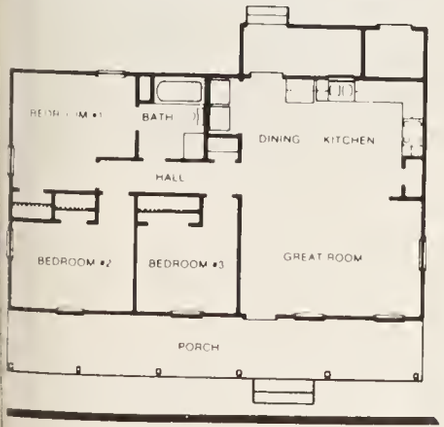

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Books

By Frank Jeter, Jr.

Exploring The Villages Of North Carolina **by Faris Jane Corey. Provincial Press, Chapel Hill. 117 pages. $5.50.**

People who love North Carolina (and there are lots of us) enjoy reading books and stories by others with the same affection. "Exploring the Villages" is very much a work of love, not only on the part of Faris Jane Corey but also of Philip Moose and Kate Russell Forbes. They each contributed to the illustrations that add so much to the total content, and Kate Forbes did the maps that show you how to get where you are going.

The 23 locations described are among the best villages to visit in North Carolina. The mountain resorts are accounted for by Roaring Gap, Blowing Rock, Linville, Cherokee, Fontana, Highlands, Flat Rock and Tryon.

We also have Davidson, the village in Mecklenburg County which is the home of Davidson College, and Wake Forest, which houses the Baptist seminary on the former campus of Wake Forest College.

Such historic sites as Bath, Halifax, Hillsborough and Halifax are covered, together with Ocracoke, Southport and fabled Calabash.

The article on Calabash naturally centers on the delicious and bountiful seafood that we can eat when we go there.

The author includes some villages in which the definition seems a bit far-fetched. Take Chapel Hill, for example, or "Biltmore Village." True enough, they identify Biltmore as part of Asheville. And Chapel Hill is defended as trying to "retain village features." Maybe it does, to some degree. Old Salem, in Winston-Salem, is listed as another "consolidated village."

Having mentioned every other village covered, we should also mention Seagrove (pottery) and Saxapahaw (oldtime mills and the home of the late Senator Everett Jordan) as well as Pinehurst, the "golfers' heaven."

This enjoyable book is the latest in a series by Jane Corey. In others she has explored the coast, the mountains, country inns and even "North Carolina Firsts" as the book was titled.

This small album-style softback book will not hurt her reputation one bit.

Outer Banks Mysteries And Seaside Stories **by Charles Harry Whedbee. John F. Blair. 141 pages. $5.95.**

This excellent new book gives evidence that North Carolina is the setting for many fascinating stories of yesterday and today, and that we have some notable storytellers in the Tar Heel state.

Judge Whedbee, who is chief district judge of the Third Judicial District, has written two similar books, which have gone into multiple printings. But this one abundantly demonstrates that the well is not running dry: the fifteen stories hold your interest throughout.

There is "Legend of Old Buck", the magnificent bull that swam ashore from a sinking ship with two young men riding on his back. You will find few narratives on witchcraft more gripping than "The Affair at Brownrigg Mill."

I'll confess I have never noticed a small white cloud that seems to keep station where the Labrador Current meets the Gulf Stream off Hatteras — but a love story to explain that cloud is much more charming than anything you're apt to get from a merry meteorologist on your television tube.

The Outer Banks community of Rodanthe has always observed "Old Christmas" during early January, and this observance brings us to the story about the "Golden Drum of Bonnie Prince Charlie," which was brought from Scotland to the North Carolina shores.

Shipwrecks, battles of land and sea, and other familiar subjects are covered. And although the famed Maco Light is not exactly on the Outer Banks and even lies some miles inland from Wilmington, we also have an excellent version of how Railroadman Joe Baldwin continues his search for the head he lost in that well-known train accident. The story is in harmony with the spirit of this book.

Judge Whedbee lives in Greenville but his heart is somewhere along the Outer Banks of North Carolina. He gives this away with sentences like "We still celebrate Old Christmas in Rodanthe on Hatteras Island."

Further, he writes about the people in his stories — whether they lived in colonial times or recent years — as though they are not only near neighbors, but also for the most part good friends.

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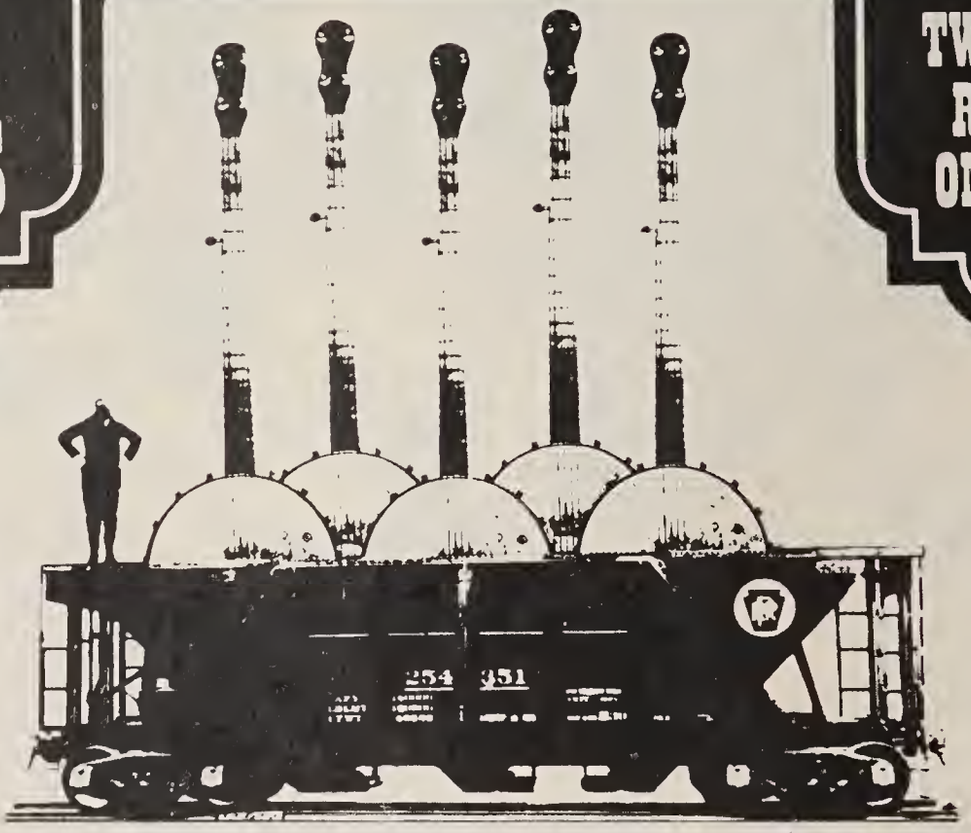

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Mailbox

I've been an admirer of your publication for several years. My parents receive it and I recently became a subscriber. I am an amateur photographer and especially enjoy the beautiful covers that your magazine displays. I would like to know how you select your covers and if anyone can submit photographs to be used.

Kim Denson
Rt. 3, Tarboro

Thanks for your kind remarks. We do make an effort to carry quality four-color photos on the magazine's cover, and we are always glad to look at offerings by both professional and amateur photographers. We get best results from color slides, so that's what we prefer to see.

With respect to Ed Taylor's letter (February issue), Mr. Taylor should be aware that evolution is defined as change in genetic make-up of a population and is a scientifically verifiable fact.

Evolution can be observed occurring almost daily in populations of animals with short breeding spans, such as insect or rate populations. These observations of small scale evolution are applied as a model to explain discrepancies between present shapes of life and fossill forms. There are gaps in the fossil record, which is to be expected considering the span of time involved. However, evolution is the only reasonable way to account for the available facts.

Science is basically the attempt to explain the unknown by use of theories formed from observation and experimentation. The Biblical account of creation is an attempt to answer the ultimate question of the purpose and origin of the universe but it is neither experimentally testable nor verifiable, thus totally useless in the scientific sense.

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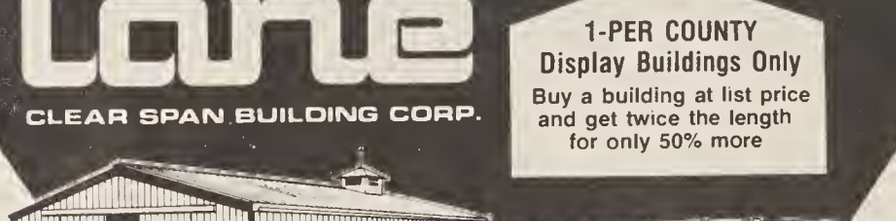

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Poet's Corner

Billie Varner, who wrote the verses below, is the wife of State Rep. John Varner of Davidson County. The poems are part of her second book of poetry, titled *Woodland Footpaths,* **which is to be published in October. Her first book,** *Come Share My World With Me,* **is now in its second printing.**

My Very Own Rock City

On a warm winter afternoon
overlooking Tipside
And under the spell
of the Uwharries
The whole world
seemed mine.
There I had a chance
to listen —
And could almost feel
the strength of the hills.

Out There

Out there —
I am free
Not fenced in.
The horizon
Is my boundary.
My spirit —
Will not strangle
Or choke —
If it remains out there
Even while I am here.

The Morning Moon

I had seen the Morning Moon
a hundred times or more
but never once like this
So big and powerful
just an hour before dawn
gradually sinking —
Could I be dreaming —
could this be the sun
at it's glorious winter-best.
No indeed, it was the moon, that
awoke and bid me watch
as it settled in the West.

Spring

This morning —
I talked to a mocking bird
perched sprightly
up in a tree.
He must have heard
for immediately —
he sang a song for me.

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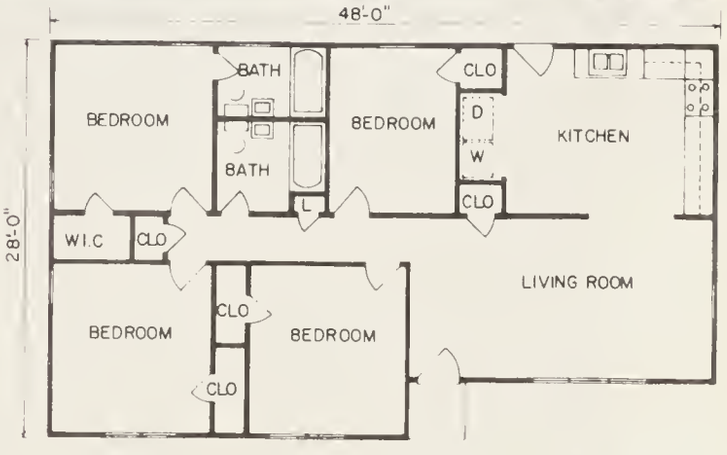

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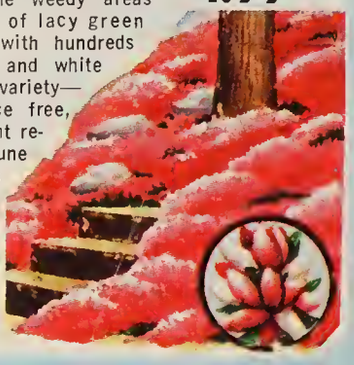

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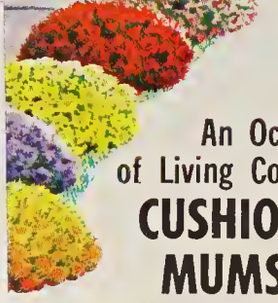

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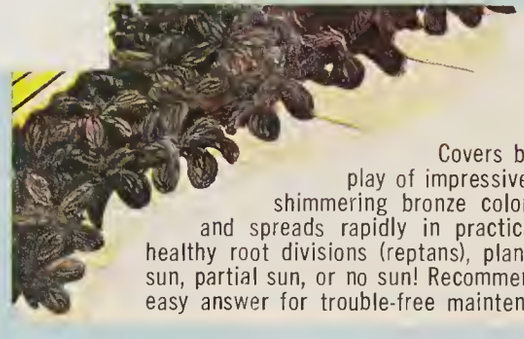

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6	FREE	Peacock Orchids if order totals $4.00	0
6	FREE	Anemones (plus 6 Peacock Orchids) if order totals $8.00	0
12	FREE	Oxalis (plus 6 Anemones and 6 Peacock Orchids) if order totals $12.00	0.

☐ Remittance enclosed, plus 90¢ towards postage and handling. Ship postpaid. **TOTAL** $

☐ Bill on my credit card, plus 90¢ postage and handling. Ship postpaid. (Check one). **GRAND TOTAL** $

☐ Master Charge ☐ American Express

☐ BankAmericard (Visa)

Credit Card # _____

Exp. Date _____

PRINT NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

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